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## **George Announces CIS and Strategic Fund Budgets**

*WMU gets permanent seat on Life Sciences Steering Committee*

LANSING – State Senator Tom George, R-Texas Township, announced today the passage of the budgets for the Department of Consumer and Industry Services and the Strategic Fund by the Commerce, Labor and Economic Development Senate Appropriations Subcommittee. George, subcommittee vice-chair, worked with Senator Valde Garcia, who chairs the subcommittee, to create a slotted spot for Western Michigan University (WMU) on the Life Sciences and Technology Tri-Corridor Steering Committee.

“Western Michigan University as provided a significant voice for the Life Sciences Corridor Steering Committee and deserves the recognition of a permanent seat at the table,” George said. In the past, Western Michigan University President Elson Floyd has been an at-large member of the committee; however, this new budget language will ensure a continual presence for WMU on the committee.

The purpose of the steering committee is to provide advice and oversight of the proposed \$15 million for the Life Science Initiative, including the development of criteria for the award of contracts or grants to qualifying universities, institutions, companies or individuals.

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